Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 PC-01 USIA-06 IO-10

INR-07 DODE-00 AGR-05 INT-05 COME-00 /115 R

DRAFTED BY AFR/CWR/SDU:JKELLY:CML APPROVED BY AFR/CWR:ICOKER AFR/CWR/SDU:HMILLER RDO/NIAMEY:ABARON (SUBS) AFR/CWR:FGILBERT (SUBS)

----- 057950

P R 242210Z JUL 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN AMEMBASSY ROME

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION--NIGER

REFS; (A) NIAMEY 2721 (B) STATE 172801 (C) NIAMEY 2887

- 1. AID/W FULLY CONCURS WITH RDO/NIAMEY APPROACH TO CURRENT GON FOOD SHORTAGE ALERT AS OUTLINED REF (A). LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIPT OF CURRENT ASSESSMENT, AND, AS INDICATED REF (B), WILL FORWARD USG STOCKS FROM ABIDJAN IF NEED IS VERIFIED.
- 2. ALONG WITH ASSESSMENT DATA, AID/W WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING RDO CLARIFICATION ON URGENCY OF NEED. FROM THIS DISTANCE IT WOULD SEEM THERE IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY THAT A FOOD SHORTAGE COULD DEVELOP IN LATE 1975 IF OCTOBER HARLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VEST IS POOR DUE INADEQUATE RAINS DURING JUNE-SEPTEMBER AND/

OR SIGNIFICANT CROP DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY INSECTS OVER SAME PERIOD. IN SUCH AN EVENT, DONORS WOULD HAVE ADEQUATE TIME TO SHIP NEW FOOD STOCKS ON ASSUMPTION THAT EVEN A POOR HARVEST WOULD RESULT IN SUFFICIENT CROP YIELDS TO COVER TWO MONTH FOOD REQUIREMENTS (I.E., LATE OCTOBER-DECEMBER).

3. IT IS NOT EQUALLY CLEAR HERE, HOWEVER, WHY CONJECTURE ON POSSIBILITY OF POOR OCTOBER 1975 HARVEST HAS LED GOVERNMENT TO CONCLUDE THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL STOCKS

SINCE FOOD REQUIREMENTS FOR CURRENT JUNE-SEPTEMBER PERIOD NOT RPT NOT AFFECTED BY 1975 HARVEST SITUATION. FURTHER, BOTH GON AND DONORS HAVE CONSISTENTLY REPORTED THAT INCOUNTRY STOCKS WERE SUFFICIENT COVER PRE-1975 HARVEST FOOD REQUIREMENTS.

4. RDO RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED ON A PRIORITY RASIS

DECONTROL: 7/25/76. KISSINGER

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To: NIAMEY

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